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Community *notes*

Columbus Day Closings

Howard County Government offices are closed on Monday, October 10 in observance of the Columbus Day holiday. The 911 Center, Police and Fire departments remain staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Details are on the [County website](#).

All parking regulations and fees are in effect on Columbus Day.

Closed on Monday, October 10

- County Government Offices
- Courts
- Animal Shelter
- 50+ Centers
- Robinson Nature Center

Open on Monday, October 10

- Landfill and all trash, recycling, yard trim and food scrap services
- County Parks
- Gary J. Arthur Community Center
- North Laurel Community Center
- Roger Carter Community Center
- County Historic Sites
- Kiwanis-Wallas Hall
- Meadowbrook Athletic Center
- Cedar Lane Activity Room (use by permit only)
- Schooley Mill Activity Room (use by permit only)
- Regional Transportation Agency (RTA) operates on a normal schedule. For more information on RTA, visit their [website](#) or call 1-800-270-9553.

Greetings

This week's newsletter includes an array of opportunities which are presented by community organizations. Hopefully, one or more of these will inspire you to learn, have fun or share your ideas and experiences with others.

MayKay

MIHU Open Enrollment

The Howard County Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) is accepting applications for its Moderate Income Housing Unit (MIHU) program now through Monday, October 31. Those interested in enrolling should call DHCD's Housing Opportunities Programs Division at 410-313-6343 or visit the [MIHU website](#).

DHCD holds a free "MIHU Buyers and Renters Workshop" on Thursday, October 20, to explain the program's eligibility requirements and application process for prospective homebuyers and renters. The workshop is open to the public from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Gateway Building (6751 Columbia Gateway Drive, Columbia). For more information or to register for the workshop, please contact the Department's Housing Opportunities Programs Division.

Additionally, DHCD offers a free "First-Time Homebuyer's Workshop" on Monday, October 17 from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m., also at the Gateway Building. This monthly workshop focuses on the critical areas of home buying, from home readiness and budgeting and credit usage, to financing a home. Registration is required for this workshop, either by phone (410-313-6328) or [email](#).



Countryside Artisans Gallery & Studio Tours

[Countryside Artisans](#) hold their next set of tours on Friday, October 7, through Sunday, October 9. Fifteen art studios, representing more than 40 artists throughout Howard, Montgomery and Frederick Counties, are open from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. A map of participating studios is available on the [website](#). Meet the artists and craftsmen and see their workplaces. Studios offer original prints, paintings, hand blown glass, pottery, hand spun yarns, knitted and woven apparel, wine, woodenware, jewelry, wrought ironware, home and garden furniture, and annuals and perennials.

Toby's Dinner Theatre Presents: *Sister Act*

Located in the heart of Columbia at 5900 Symphony Woods Road, [Toby's Dinner Theatre](#) offers award-winning Broadway and original musicals with a buffet-style dinner. Now through Sunday, November 13, guests can enjoy *Sister Act* at this unique venue with an amazing performance 'in-the-round.' The musical comedy is based on the smash hit 1992 film, featuring original music by Tony and 8-time Oscar winner Alan Menken. Tickets are available [online](#).

Hops & Harvest Festival

General admission [tickets](#) include unlimited tastings from more than 50 local Maryland breweries and cideries. Visit the Downtown Columbia Lakefront (10221 Wincopin Circle, Columbia) on Saturday, October 8 from noon to 9:00 p.m. to take part in all things hops, and enjoy live music from local band ForTheWin.

New Works at the Bernice Kish Gallery



The [Bernice Kish Gallery](#) at Slayton House (10400 Cross Fox Lane, Columbia) is pleased to announce a group exhibit by Brenda Kidera and her students. The exhibit, titled "Oil and Water," runs from Thursday, October 20 through Saturday, December 17. More than 25 artists

are contributing to this exhibit, including Cindy Aaron, Janet Arsenault, Mary Jeanne Coles, and Karen Schuster. A free reception will be held on Saturday, October 22, from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. The public is invited to attend and enjoy refreshments and music. For more information call 410-730-3987 or [email](#) Carole Black at the gallery.

Works by Ellen Corddry and Diana Ulman remain on view at the gallery through Saturday, October 15.

County-Sponsored Shredding Event

Howard County residents may bring up to three bags or boxes of paper to be shredded onsite at the Long Gate Park & Ride, (off of Route 100 Exit 1A, Ellicott City). This event takes place on Saturday, October 15, rain or shine. For more information, contact the Bureau of Environmental Services at 410-313-6444 or visit their [website](#).

HCPSS Community 5K and Fun Run

Join Howard County Public School System (HCPSS) students, families, staff and the community to celebrate health and wellness at the HCPSS's third annual Let's Go HoCo - [HCPSS Community 5K & 1 Mile Fun Run](#). The event is held at 7001 Columbia Gateway Drive, Columbia on Sunday, October 16. The 1 mile Fun Run begins at 8:00 a.m. and 5K runners join in at 8:30 a.m. [Registration](#) is available online or by mail through



Wednesday, October 12, and in-person on Friday, October 14 through Sunday, October 16. Only those who register by Friday, September 30 are guaranteed shirts. Please contact Mary Schiller at 410-313-6655 or via [email](#) for more information.

CA Culture Fest

The Columbia Association (CA) hosts a free, family-friendly cultural festival focusing on Central American and Mexican musicians, dancers, exhibitors and food vendors. The [Central America and Mexico Culture Fest](#) takes place at Howard County Library System's Miller Branch, 9421 Frederick Road in Ellicott City on Sunday, October 16 from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. The community is invited to enjoy a free afternoon of music, dance performances and displays.

Congressional App Challenge

Congressman Elijah Cummings' office accepts submissions for the 2016 [Congressional App Challenge](#) until Wednesday, November 2 at midnight. This challenge is open to all high school students in the Seventh Congressional District of Maryland. It promotes innovation and engagement in coding and computer science, highlighting the value of STEM education. Students compete against their peers by creating an application for mobile, tablet, or computer devices. Submissions are judged on the following criteria:

- Quality of the idea, including creativity and originality
 - Implementation of the idea, including user experience and design
 - Demonstrated excellence of coding and programming skills
- Please contact Ms. Philisha Lane at 410- 685-9199 for more information.

Board of Education Candidates' Forum

The 10 Villages of Columbia (Dorsey's Search, Hickory Ridge, Harpers Choice, Kings Contrivance, Long Reach, Oakland Mills, Owen Brown, River Hill, Town Center, and Wilde Lake) sponsor a Q & A style [Board of Education Candidates' Forum](#) for all candidates running for the HCPSS Board of Education. The community is welcome to attend on Thursday, October 13 from 7:00 to 8:45 p.m. at The Other Barn in Oakland Mills (5851 Robert Oliver Place, Columbia). Contact Sandy Cederbaum via [email](#) for more information.



Light the Night in Howard County

The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's (LLS) [Light The Night Walk](#) funds treatments that are saving patients' lives. LLS makes cures happen by providing patient support services, advocating for lifesaving treatments and pioneering the most promising cancer research anywhere. On Saturday, October 8, LLS hopes that the community will join fundraising efforts in Maple Lawn, Fulton, at 5:30 p.m. Interested parties can register [online](#).

Reconnecting with Earth

[HoCo Climate Change](#) holds a six-session discussion course to explore how cultural beliefs and personal values affect the way we view and treat the Earth. An introductory meeting is available on Wednesday, October 19 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at Oliver's Carriage House (5410 Leaf Treader Way, Columbia). The regular sessions are on Wednesdays from October 26 through December 7, also at the Carriage House. Please [email](#) HoCo Climate Change to register.



Great Pumpkin Adventure

[Terrapin Adventures](#) invites kids to enjoy free pumpkin decorating and candy on Saturday, October 15 at 10:00 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 1:00 p.m., 2:30 p.m., and 4:00 p.m. To sign up for the free pumpkin decorating, [email](#) your children's name and the desired time slot. Slots are limited so sign up early. The Terrapin Explorer Kids Course, full of climbing and zip-lining, is available for \$25.00.

CandleKids Performance

On Sunday, October 23, the [Candlelight Concert Society](#) invites kids and adults alike to watch and revel in "Hot Strings and Flying Feet" by the Footworks Percussive Dance Ensemble. The show is available at 2:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. in Smith Theatre at the Horowitz Visual and Performing Arts Center (Howard Community College, 10901 Little Patuxent Parkway, Columbia). Footworks presents a dazzling and diverse array of traditional and original music and choreography which convey the roots and branches of American music and dance. Tickets and subscriptions can be purchased [online](#).

Spooky Science

Kids and adults can dress up in their favorite Halloween costumes at the Maryland Science Center (601 Light Street, Baltimore) for a day of [Spooky Science](#) on Saturday, October 29, from noon to 4:00 p.m. Creepy chemistry and mysterious science combine to provide a hauntingly good time. Make gooey, glowing slime, decorate pumpkins, and explore spooky sensory bins. All activities are free with paid admission and completely free for members.

Upcoming Events

Kids' Nearly New Fall Sale

Saturday, October 8, 8:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

Howard County Fairgrounds, Exhibition Building

2210 Fairgrounds Road, West Friendship, MD 21794

Free admission! This [sale](#) includes 140 booths filled with seasonal kids' clothes, books and games.

Oakland Mills Fall Festival

Saturday, October 8, 11:00 a.m.

Oakland Mills Village Center

5851 Robert Oliver Place, Columbia, MD 21045

Bring family, friends, and neighbors - rain or shine - to this fun, free [festival](#). Email [Oakland Mills](#) for more information.

Fire Prevention Expo

Saturday, October 8, Noon—2:00 p.m.

The Mall in Columbia, Lower Sears Parking Lot

10300 Little Patuxent Parkway, Columbia, MD 21044

Learn about tools and resources to prevent fires in your home at the [Fire Prevention Expo](#). Expo includes CPR demonstrations, a kids course, pictures with Sparky, and a live controlled fire demonstration.

HAL Star Party

Saturday, October 8, Dusk—11:00 p.m.

Alpha Ridge Park

11685 Old Frederick Road, Marriottsville, MD 21104

This [stargazing fête](#) features a casual atmosphere where club members, amateur astronomers, and other star enthusiasts are welcome to enjoy the wonders of the night sky.

Exploring Columbia on Foot

Thursday, October 20, 10:00 a.m.

Slayton House at Wilde Lake

10400 Cross Fox Lane, Columbia, MD 21044

Ned Tillman guides discussions on the nature, history and future of beautiful outdoor settings as participants walk through local forest paths. Registration is not required. Visit the [website](#) for details.



Mary Kay Sigaty

mksigaty@howardcountymd.gov

Twitter: [@MaryKaySigaty](#)

Facebook: [facebook.com/MaryKaySigaty](#)

Howard County Council

3430 Courthouse Drive

Ellicott City, MD 21043

(410) 313-2001

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